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21FEB02 E697831/1 CB23/7  
P01/7700 0.00-0204075/6**Request for grant of a patent**

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

THE PATENT OFFICE

21 FEB 2002

NEWPORT

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1. Your reference

2. Patent application number  
*(The Patent Office will fill in this part)***0204075.6**

121 FEB 2002

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of  
each applicant (underline all surnames)MR NICHOLAS OXLEY  
63 ALDBOURNE ROAD  
LONDON W12 0LWPatents ADP number (*if you know it*)If the applicant is a corporate body, give the  
country/state of its incorporation

8729864001

II

4. Title of the invention

SELF - STABILIZING FOUR - LEGGED SUPPORT STRUCTURE

5. Name of your agent (*if you have one*)"Address for service" in the United Kingdom  
to which all correspondence should be sent  
*(including the postcode)*  
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LONDON W12 0LWPatents ADP number (*if you know it*)6. If you are declaring priority from one or more  
earlier patent applications, give the country  
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Country

Priority application number  
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derived from an earlier UK application,  
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Number of earlier application

Date of filing  
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to grant of a patent required in support of  
this request? (Answer 'Yes' if  
a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or  
b) there is an inventor who is not named as an  
applicant, or  
c) any named applicant is a corporate body.  
See note (d))

NO

Patents Form 1/77

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Continuation sheets of this form

Description 1

Claim(s)

Abstract

Drawing(s)

1 X

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (*Patents Form 7/77*)

Request for preliminary examination and search (*Patents Form 9/77*)

Request for substantive examination  
(*Patents Form 10/77*)

Any other documents  
(please specify)

11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

*Nich Oxley*

Date 14 FEB. 2002

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

NICHOLAS OXLEY  
077 4059 7242

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## SELF-STABILIZING FOUR-LEGGED SUPPORT STRUCTURE

The invention relates to any type of four-legged object. It is particularly applicable to furniture including chairs, tables, beds, benches, chests of drawers, shelving units and pedestals.

The invention addresses the problems that arise when one leg of a four-legged object does not touch the ground. This often results in objects which are inherently unstable and prone to random, unwanted and often disturbing rocking motion. This can be a problem on flat and rough surfaces. Three-legged objects, like tripods, do not have this problem; however, a three-legged object is not ideal for supporting larger loads of varied geometry.

An object of this invention is to produce a four-legged support structure, which can rest in a perfectly stable state on most surfaces.

Accordingly, this invention consists of two sets of legs coupled together through a bearing assembly so that these sets of legs can rotate with respect to one another. The design requires that all other furnishings be attached to only one of the two sets of legs.

Preferably, the legs and bearing assembly are made of materials which will not bend substantially or shear under normal loading conditions, providing a state of rotation between the first and second set of legs.

A preferred embodiment of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawing in which the basic principles of this invention are applied to the design of a chair.

FIGURE 1 shows a side view of the whole chair;

FIGURE 2 shows a back view of the whole chair;

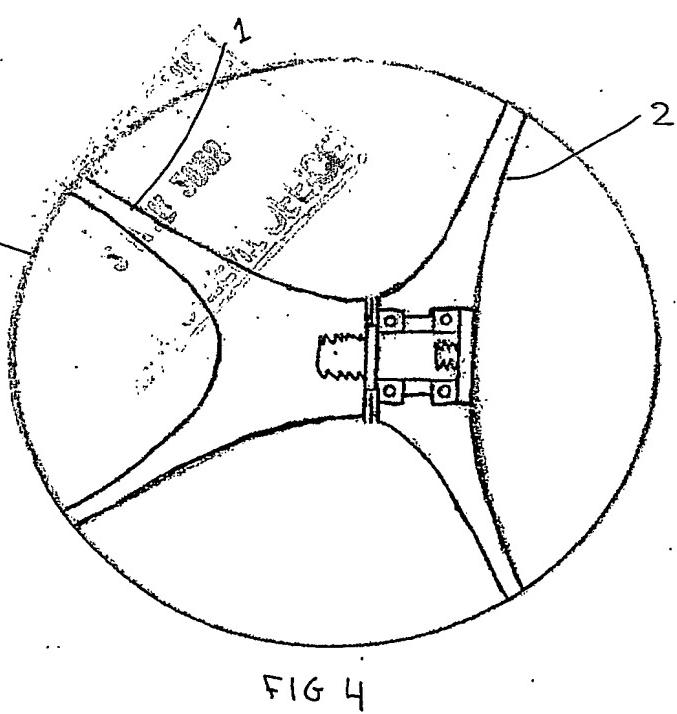
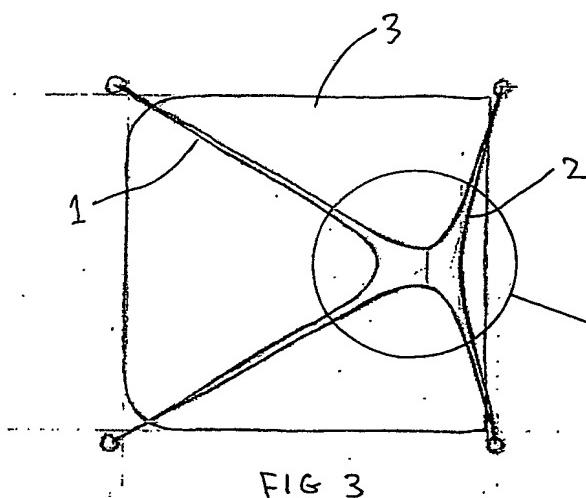
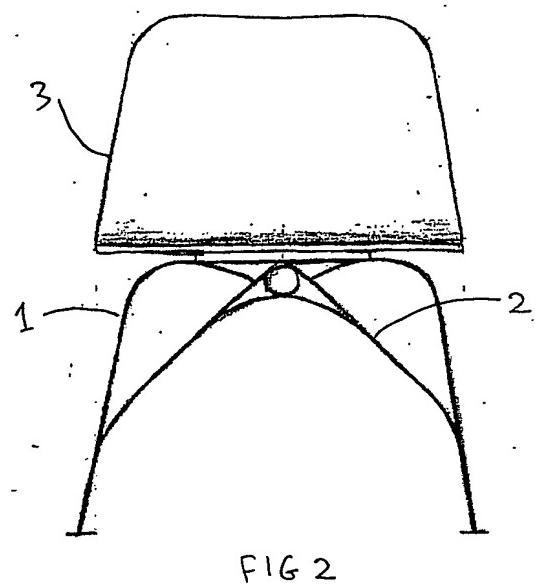
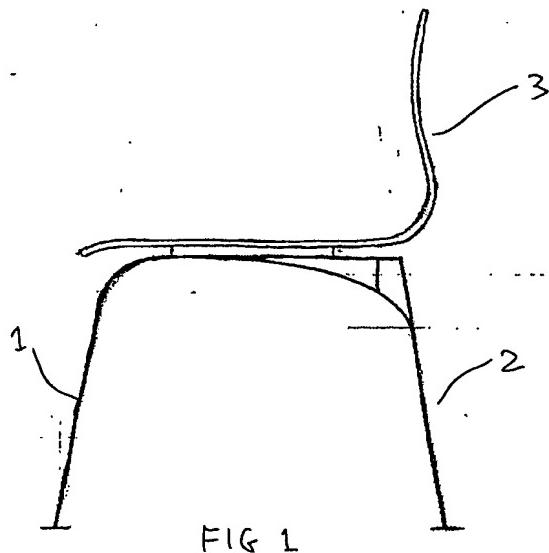
FIGURE 3 shows a top view of the whole chair;

FIGURE 4 is a section showing the bearing assembly about which the two sets of legs can rotate.

As Figures 1,2, and 3 show, the exterior of the chair comprises a first set of legs 1, a second set of legs 2, and a seat 3. The seat 3 is fixed to only one of the two sets of legs. For this design, the height of the frame was determined to be consistent with ergonomic recommendations for fixed frame seat heights. The exact proportions of the frame can be modified to accommodate different functional requirements.

Figure 4 shows a cross-section of a standard bearing assembly, which allows the first set of legs 1 to rotate with respect to the second set of legs 2.

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